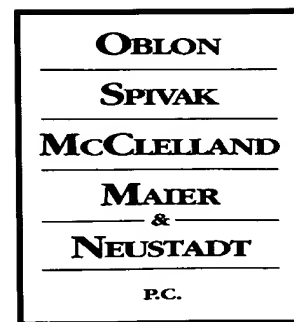




DATE ALLOWED: September 21, 2004

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Docket No.: 212903US3

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/956,912  
Inventor: Osamu KAKINUMA  
Filing Date: September 21, 2001  
For: BRANCH PIPE JOINT AND METHOD OF CONNECTING PIPES USING THE  
PIPE JOINT  
Group: 3679  
Examiner: Bochna, David

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**LETTER SUBMITTING DRAWING REPLACEMENT SHEET(S)**

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 CFR 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 CFR 1.136 for the necessary extension of time.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Gregory J. Maier  
Registration No. 25,599

Robert T. Pous  
Registration No. 29,099

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(OSMMN 05/04)

Docket No.: 212903US3



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION: Osamu KAKINUMA

SERIAL NO.: 09/956,912

GAU: 3679

FILED: September 21, 2001

EXAMINER: Bochna, David

FOR: BRANCH PIPE JOINT AND METHOD OF CONNECTING PIPES USING THE PIPE JOINT

**LETTER SUBMITTING REPLACEMENT DRAWING SHEET(S)**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Alexandria, VA 22313

SIR:

Responsive to the below indicated communication, the following drawing sheets are submitted herewith:

☒ 2 Replacement Drawing Sheets

☐ \_\_\_\_\_ New Drawing Sheets

☐ Official Action dated \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Notice of Allowance/Issue Fee dated September 21, 2004

☐ Other dated \_\_\_\_\_

The changes and/or modifications made include the following:

The replacement drawing sheets are submitted to meet the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office requirement.

Respectfully Submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
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